



Hughes & Hough
AUCTIONEERS TO THE GOVERNMENT.

General Auctioneers
Share, Coal and General Produce
Brokers and Commission
Agents.

PROPRIETORS
"To-Kwa-Wan" Coal Storage.

Office used
Bentley's
A. & C. 4th & 5th Editions.
A 1 Telegraphic Code.

Telegraphic Address
"MELIOR" HONGKONG.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from the Liquidator of Messrs. BLACKBURN & COMPANY, F. H. HORNBY, F. J. R. SCHWARTZKOPF, E. H. THUR, and E. J. DANIELS, in pursuance of an Order of the Hongkong Government, to sell by Public Auction at 3 o'clock in the afternoon

THURSDAY,
the 28th day of November, 1918, at their Auction Rooms at No. 8 Des Vaux Road Central.

THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY
situate and being Rural Building Lots Nos. 37 & 38, and known as "SMITH'S VILLA," The Peak.

IN ONE LOT.
The Property has an area of 86,900 square feet or thereabouts. On it is situated a well built European bungalow, which contains 6 good rooms, a pantry, a drying-room and a spacious hall. There is a large basement below, in which are situated the servants' rooms and kitchen. There is also a tennis court and garden.

The Property is held for the residue of a term of 75 years from the 29th November, 1888. The Crown Rent is \$302 per annum.

THE PROPERTY IS OFFERED SUBJECT TO A RESERVED PRICE OF \$35,500.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale and Inspection Orders may be had from—
Messrs. DEACON, LOOKER, DEACON & HARSTON,
Solicitors for the Liquidator,
OR FROM
Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH,
The Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Nov. 4, 1918. 205

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction
(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),
on

THURSDAY,
the 28th Nov., 1918, at 10.30 a.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

Several lots of WINE, BEER, &c. (including Champagne).

And
A few lots PROVISIONS,
KIDNEY PUDDINGS, TEA, &c.

Terms:—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Nov. 22, 1918. 254

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction
(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),
on

SATURDAY,
the 7th December, 1918, at 11 a.m., "Steamer now running between this Port and Haiphong."

The ENGINES and BOILER as they now stand in good working order.
Description:—
Set of Compound Engines, 16 x 23, by 24 stroke.
Boiler, 12 x 10, working pressure 120 lbs. on Veritas survey.

To be sold in one lot, together with Engine Seat, Funnels and Stays, and all Fittings, &c. connected with the above mentioned Engine and Boiler.

On shore at Kwong Tung Cheong's wharf.
Immediately following this Sale will be offered
One 120 Ton STEEL LIGHTER.

Description:—
Built of steel frames 3 x 3 x 1, and 1 steel plates.
Length 110 feet.
Beam—22 feet.
Depth 7 feet.

A quantity of
STEEL FRAMES 1 x 2 x 2.
STEEL PLATES.

Several ANCHORS, CHAINS, &c. &c.
The above mentioned Steamer will be at Haiphong about 27th instant when inspection order may be obtained from the Undersigned.

Further particulars will be published later.
Terms:—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Nov. 6/1918. 213

AUCTION.

G. R.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS and Conditions of the Lotting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 2nd day of Dec. 1918, at 3 p.m., at the Office of the Public Works Department by Order of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, of one Lot of CROWN LAND at Sheung Shui, in the New Territories of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years commencing from 1st July, 1868, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 21 years, less three days.

Particulars of the Lot.									
No. of Lots.	Boundary Measurements.	Locality.	Area.	Area.	Area.	Area.	Area.	Area.	Area.
1.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
2.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
3.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
4.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
5.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
6.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
7.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
8.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
9.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
10.	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2

FOR SALE.

GALESEND, 100 The Peak, Six Rooms, Grass Tennis Court, immediate possession.

Apply—
C. H. GALE,
Public Works Department.
Hongkong, Nov. 12, 1918. 221

FOR SALE.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell
(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),
At their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

AEOLIAN ORCHESTRELLER
(Eighteen Stops).
With Sixty-one Rolls of Music.

In very good condition. Inspecting orders and further particulars from the undersigned.

Terms:—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Nov. 18, 1918. 242

TO LET.

TO LET.
A HOUSE in Wong-nai-chong Road.
HOUSES on Shamoon, Canton.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, Oct. 2, 1918. 736

TO LET.

A HOUSE in "Kingsford Terrace" Kowloon.

Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, Oct. 2, 1918. 736

TO LET.

A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.
Alexandra Buildings.
Hongkong, July 17, 1918. 203

BANK.

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LTD.
(LIMITED).
INCORPORATED BY SPECIAL IMPERIAL CHARTER, 1899.

Capital Subscribed... Yen 30,000,000.
Capital Paid-up... " 25,000,000.
Reserve Funds... " 5,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
TAIPEH, FORMOSA.

BRANCHES:
JAPAN—Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Fukuoka, etc.
FORMOSA—Keelung, Tainan, etc.
CHINA—Shanghai, Hankow, etc.
AMERICA—San Francisco, etc.

OFFICES: Hongkong, Shanghai, etc.
SINGAPORE, SOERABAYA, BATAVIA, BOMBAY, LONDON, NEW YORK.

LONDON BANKERS:
Capital and Counties Bank, London, and South-Western Bank, Farringham.

The Bank has Correspondents in the Commercial Centres in European Continent, Russia, Manchuria, Mongolia, China, Japan, Indo-China, Siam, Java, Dutch Indies, Australia, America, Africa, etc.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts and Fixed Deposits at rates which will be quoted on application.
MACKENZIE YAMAGUCHI
HONGKONG BRANCH
4, Des Vaux Road.
Hongkong, May 2, 1918.

EXTRA-TERRITORIALITY IN CHINA.

Among the questions that the Peking Peace Commission will bring before the International Peace Conference is the abolition of extra-territoriality in China.

The extra-territorial rights of the foreigners in China have always been a sore subject with the Government and the people. Its existence is an affront to national pride—it relegates China to an inferior position among nations—it is a direct challenge to the Chinese sense of fairplay and justice, and to the honesty of Chinese judiciary.

As extra-territoriality prevails only among backward and semi-civilized States, the inference is only too clear that China is ranked among such States. So long as extra-territoriality remains, the nation will ever smart under the ignominy as not being on equality with first class Powers. Hence the early removal of extra-territoriality from this country is a consummation devoutly to be wished.

Although the Peking Peace Commission, notwithstanding the fact that the South-West is not represented in it, carries out its best wishes, we cannot but entertain serious doubts as to its success so far as the matter of extra-territoriality is concerned. It is not the first time that China has attempted to obtain the cancellation of extra-territoriality by the Powers, but these have always replied that in view of the unsatisfactory state of Chinese laws and legal procedure, they could not feel justified to entrust their nationals to the jurisdiction of Chinese courts.

That the refusal of the Powers to acquiesce in China's request is fair and reasonable, we must admit, if we are to view it in a broad-minded way.

We ourselves are far from being satisfied with the manner in which justice is being administered by our own courts. The usurpation of judicial power by the military authorities, so frequently happening in these days, brings home to us the feeling of insecurity against military transgressions of our rights and liberty. The imprisonment and flogging of editors by the Peking Government, for divulging news which the country was entitled to know; the shooting of an editor by the military governor of a certain province in the South-West for printing a reported rumour; the detention of men for trial for months without a hearing; the corrupt practices of many of our judges; the lack of the law of evidence; the law's delays resulting in great hardships to the sufferers—all these evils only convince the Powers that China is not ready to accord foreigners that justice to which they are accustomed in their own countries.

There are many Chinese who have come back to China with foreign passports and are registered in the consulate. Some of these are in business; others are holding high official positions. These men talk of patriotism as glibly as those of the native born, but how many of them would be ready to surrender their foreign status and come under Chinese jurisdiction? We make bold to say that we can count them on the fingers of one hand.

There are also high Chinese officials who have sub rosa become foreign citizens by payment of certain fees. They carry in their tail-coats their foreign citizenship papers, preparatory to flaunt them before the Chinese Authorities in times of trouble.

Thus, we see that even some of our own people are loathe to submit to the jurisdiction of the country, how much less should we expect of the foreigners.

If we wish to see extra-territoriality abolished, there is only way to do it. We must cleanse the judiciary of corruption—we must make the law applicable to all persons—and we must see that justice is carried out with an even hand, showing no partiality to the rich or the poor, the high officials or the humble citizens. The day that China can declare to the world that Chinese judiciary is a guarantee for justice and integrity, that day will be the end of extra-territoriality, but not before.

— Canton Times.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

THEIR VALUE IN THE WORLD'S TRADE.

WASHINGTON.

Chauncey D. Snow, assistant chief of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, has published in "Commerce Reports" an article on the value of foreign languages in increasing the export business of the United States. The bureau receives and welcomes the views of thoughtful citizens on the subject. By many who have forwarded their opinions the knowledge of foreign languages is considered the backbone of all preparation for foreign business and some have gone so far as to suggest that, where instruction is lacking in schools and colleges, it be furnished, along with the textbooks, by the Federal Government.

Much of Mr. Snow's article is based on a report issued by the British Government of an investigation by a committee named in 1916 to consider the position of foreign language study in the British educational system and the value of it in foreign trade. On this point the report says:—

"The evidence seems conclusive as to the need of foreign languages in business, especially under the new conditions which may be expected to prevail after the war. So large is the part of our industrial product abroad, so great is our capital invested in foreign countries, so universal was our carrying trade, so extensive are our financial transactions and influence and the power of our credit, that any impediment to our success will react not only on those firms directly interested in foreign markets but also on the prosperity of the whole country."

Our foreign trade does not comprise the whole of our activities, but the whole of our activities depends upon it. In a great part of our foreign trade a knowledge of languages, a knowledge of foreign countries and of foreign peoples, will be directly and abundantly remunerative.

The English committee sent a questionnaire to 1,000 firms represented in the foreign trade of Great Britain and the replies generally indicated not only the value but the necessity of a knowledge of foreign languages. Some of the replies showed, for instance, that the South American business of English firms had been transacted through Germans before the war because of the failure of the English to learn Spanish.

English is acknowledged, even by German writers, to be the foremost language of the trade of the world; but it is pointed out by English traders and all others that there are special advantages in knowing not only the language but the literature and customs of people whose business is sought.

That portion of the English report which deals with the relative importance of the European languages places French first, "by reason of the significance of its people in the development of modern civilization, by the intrinsic value of its literature, by its contribution to the valid learning of our times and by its practical use in commercial and other national intercourse." German is second, "perhaps the first language from the point of view of research," particularly in the field of science. The other European languages mentioned are Spanish, Italian and Russian.

Concerning the value of German after the war the English report says:—
"After the war the importance of German must correspond with the importance of Germany. If Germany after the war is still an enterprising, industrious, highly organized, formidable, we cannot afford to neglect it or ignore it; we cannot leave any of its activities unattended. A democracy cannot afford to be ignorant."

We may indicate one point in particular which is likely to be of importance at the end of the war. It will be impossible to out the use of German in commerce, even for our own purposes at home, apart from any question of competition in neutral countries.

This is only one of many considerations which lead us to the conclusion that it is of essential importance to the nation that the study of the German language should be maintained.

Mr. Snow calls the attention of American business men to the conclusion of the English committee's report, which recommends for all centres of manufacture for foreign trade the establishment of institutes of languages; that business men encourage the study of foreign languages by those members of their staff who have shown good business ability; that American commerce more use be made of women now possessing foreign languages and colleges with an adequate knowledge of foreign languages; and that business men bring to the knowledge of their own language the knowledge of the language of the people with whom they trade.

A JAPANESE MISSION TO ROME THREE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

On the occasion of the visit of the Japanese Red Cross Commission with Prince Tokuyama, the "Corriere d'Italia" recalls that the first arrival of a Japanese mission in Italy occurred as long ago as 1585 when—owing to the special sympathy shown to the Jesuits who were then led by Saint Francis Xavier—Father Alexander Valignani succeeded in convincing the powerful Daimio of the South-East to send an Embassy to Rome.

Four youngsters, between the age of 16 and 18, were selected for the purpose; they were all Christians, and they were accompanied by Brother George Loyola, who was then a student. They sailed from Nagasaki on the 20th of February, 1582, and returned on the 21st of July, 1590, after a voyage of eight years and five months, having crossed over 50,000 miles of water! They arrived in Lisbon after two years and half; they went to Spain and were received in Madrid by King Philip II. They embarked in Alicante and landed in Leghorn by the end of February, 1585; they went to Florence, whence they proceeded towards Rome. At that time the country around Rome was infested by over 25,000 brigands!

Pope Gregory XIII ordered 200 archbishops to escort the envoys who, after a trip of three and a half years, reached Rome at last. They arrived at sunset and entered the town by "Porta del Popolo," while bands were playing and an enormous crowd was cheering.

On the following day, the solemn reception took place, during which many and most moving speeches were made, the Pope and the Cardinals were weeping!

But, during the festivities, Pope Gregory XIII died. His successor, Sixtus V did not want show any less enthusiasm for the Japanese mission, whom he loaded with presents and honors; not only did Sixtus confirm the four thousand ducats which had been promised by Gregory XIII, but he added two thousand more, and named the four young Japanese Knights in the Order of the "Golden Spur."

—

Caruso has been unboasting himself to a representative of the Gaulois and thus bemoans his fate: "I am not a man at all; I am just a money-making machine, an apparatus that produces dividends. They compel me to live in a glass case, not that they value me, Caruso, but only because of my throat, which I have sold to the managers as Faust sold his soul to Mephistopheles."

—

INFORMATION.

MACARONI, PASTE STARS, EGG NOODLES, VERMICELLI, AND ALL KINDS OF SOUP STUFFS.

ALL our Pastes bear the "Rooster" label and are made from Flour of the Best Quality containing a large percentage of Gluten. Starch and Gluten are the principal components of Flour. Gluten is easier to digest and contains more nutriment than Starch. Manufactured under the most sanitary conditions.

Large quantities have been exported to various important cities in the World. Terms moderate, especially for Agents. Orders executed promptly.

THE HING WAH PASTE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.
Head Office: No. 47 and 48, Connaught Road, Central, Hongkong; Telephone 1328.
Principal Factory: No. 71, North Soochow Road, Shanghai, China; Telephone 5594.
Branch Factory: Cable Address: "HINGWAH."

—

GIT UP ANDY!



GIT up Andy, the war's over. We must sell the camouflaged weakie of yours an' get some money for them 'ospital. They say as they're crowded wi' poor chaps.

Ad a letter from old Bill, him as lost the power o' his legs an' has a wife an' six kids. 'E's at Bellaboustone, in that fine ward as was given by the 'ongkong folk. Says 'e's gittin' on grand an' 's wife won't know 'im 'es so 'oppy now.

Member Welshy Jones, 'im as was shell-shocked an' paralysed? Put them orphyppedik things on him they did. 'E's discharged, orl right again. Wunnerful ain't it?

BUY ST. ANDREW'S

\$5 WAR BOND TICKETS. \$5
50% FOR WAR CHARITIES.

ON SALE AT ALL BANKS, CLUBS, HOTELS, STORES, ETC.

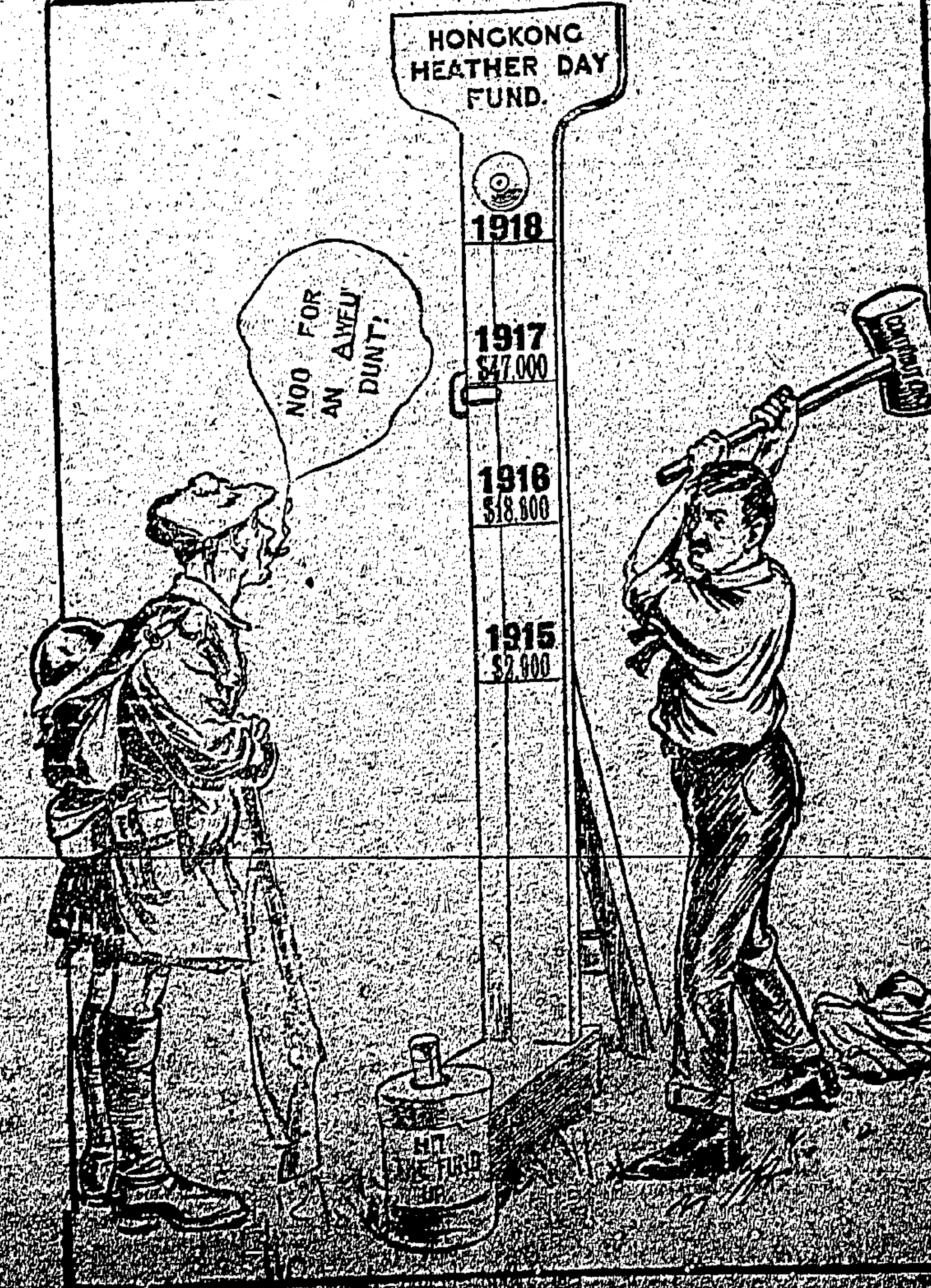
The Man Who Gets There

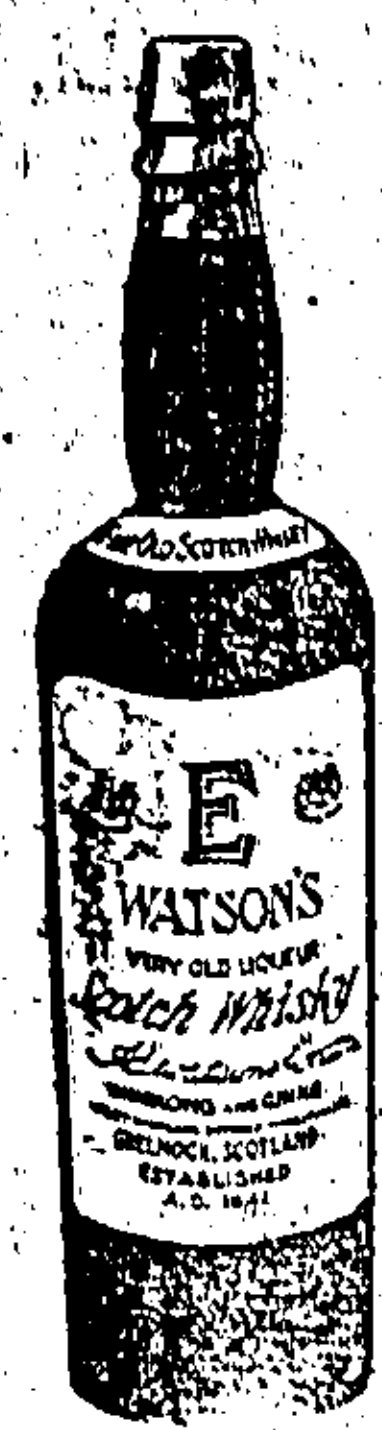
Is the man who has blood—real rich red blood—and plenty of it in his body.

WATERBURY'S METABOLIZED GODLIVER OIL COMPOUND

makes blood—lots of it—life giving, brain nourishing, strength replenishing blood.

OF ALL CHEMISTS





WATSON'S E

THE PREMIER SCOTCH OF THE FAR EAST

FOR 25 YEARS.
POPULARITY MAINTAINED BY ITS EXCELLENT
QUALITY: NOT BY EXPENSIVE WORLD-WIDE
ADVERTISING.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
HONGKONG.
Telephone No. 618.

To-day's Advertisements

"HEATHER DAY"
THE EXCHANGE BANKS will be
CLOSED FOR EXCHANGE BUSI-
NESS ON FRIDAY, the 29th inst.,
at 1 P.M.
Hongkong, Nov. 27, 1918. 902

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.
NOTICE.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that
the STOCK EXCHANGE will be
CLOSED ON FRIDAY, 29th of
November, 1918, HEATHER DAY.
By Order of the Committee.
E. M. RAYMOND,
Secretary.
Hongkong, Nov. 27, 1918. 903

PUBLIC AUCTION.
THE Undersigned have received in-
structions to sell by Public Auction,
(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),
ON
SATURDAY,
the 7th December, 1918, at 11 a.m.,
at the Sales Rooms, No. 8,
Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street—
Four Well-marked FOX TERRIER
PUPS—about 2 months old.
Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Nov. 27, 1918. 904

BARGAINS.

40% DISCOUNT.
FOR LADIES' DANCING
SHOES.

A. TACK & CO.,
26, Des Vaux Road Central.
(369)

THE "CHINA MAIL"

NOTICE.

Communications relating to news should
be addressed to THE EDITOR.
Correspondents must forward their
names and addresses with any communi-
cation addressed to the Editor, not necessarily
for publication but as evidence of good
faith.
All matter for publication should be
written on one side of the paper only.
Letters relating to business should be
addressed to THE MANAGER.
Rate of subscription to "China Mail" is
\$36 per annum; per quarter and per month
pro rata.
The "China Mail" is delivered free to
subscribers in Hongkong and Kowloon.
Postage is charged at the rate of fifty
cents per month.
Orders for extra copies of the "China
Mail" should be sent as soon as possible as
the supply is limited. Cash 10 cts., Credit
20 cts. per copy.
Rate of subscription to the "Overland
China Mail" is \$12 per annum; postage
\$1 per annum extra. Single copies twenty
five cents each.
Alterations and additions to Advertisements
on Page 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 should be
sent to the Editor, not later than 11.30 a.m.
Alterations and additions to Advertisements
on pages 1, 4, 5, and 6 should be
sent to the Editor, not later than 1 p.m.
New Advertisements should be sent in
before 2 p.m.
Advertisements and Subscriptions which
are not ordered to a fixed period will be
continued until countermanded.
Telegraphic Address: "Main," Hongkong
Code: A.B.C. 5th Edition.
Telephone No. 22.
THE CHINA MAIL LIMITED.

A FAVOURITE HUB DOWN.

THE golfer, the football player and
the all-round athlete know the value
of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and
Diarrhoea Remedy. It is just
the thing for a hub down after a hard
day's work. All ailments disappear like magic
and sprains and swellings are cured in
one-third less time than by any other
remedy. It is sold by all Chemists and
Druggists.

DEATH.

GALLUZZI—Died of influenza while on
active service in Italy, 2nd Lieut.
RAOUL GALLUZZI, eldest son of
Mr. and Mrs. A. Galluzzi, of Hong-
kong, aged 30. (Of the staff of
Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., Ltd.,
Hongkong office).

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27, 1918.

OVERCROWDING EVILS IN HONGKONG.

If the Government intends to accede
to the request of a recent public
meeting for the appointment of a
Commission to inquire into and
report upon the Housing Problems
of the Colony it is unlikely that
it will be in a hurry to adopt the
resolution passed by the Sanitary
Board yesterday recommending
certain proposals for remedying
the admitted evil of overcrowding in
certain districts of the Colony. But
if the Government deem such a
Commission unnecessary, and con-
sider that they know all that there
is to be learnt regarding these
problems, and how to solve them, the
proposals submitted by Mr. BOWLEY
and Mr. ALABASTER should stand
some chance of being sympathetically
examined with a view to their adop-
tion. No one can ignore the fact
that there is serious overcrowding of
the population in the Colony, and
abundant proof exists in the health
records of the Colony that where
the congestion of the population is
greater, there epidemics of disease
obtain their strongest hold and
furnish the highest mortality returns.
It must necessarily be so. Mr.
BOWLEY expressed the opinion that
the conditions in the City of Victoria
as regards overcrowding are worse
to-day than ever they were. Why
is it? Mr. BOWLEY said it was due
"partly to the configuration of the
land, and partly to the innate ten-
dency of the poorer classes of the
Chinese to herd together, believing
no doubt that there is safety in
numbers. The natives also find
warmth in numbers, and this
natural desire for warmth tends to
aggravate overcrowding in cold
weather. Two comments might
be made on this explanation of the
overcrowding: one is that if these
considerations are chiefly responsible
for overcrowding, then we may
expect to find every Chinese city
as bad as Hongkong in this respect,
because, after all, Hongkong is
but a Mecca for Chinese from all
parts of Southern China, and they
bring their habits and modes of
life with them. But if it be that
Hongkong is more overcrowded than
the average Chinese city the cause
may be found in the comparatively
exorbitant rentals charged for accom-
modation. It is evident that the
Chinese prefer the centre of
the city to the outskirts, for it
appears that there are at the
present time about 500 vacant floors
in the city alone. Why do they
remain vacant while certain districts
are so badly congested? And what
reason is there in those crowded
districts for thinking that cheaper
and better houses could be built
in the neighbourhood of the city
centre? The answer to these ques-

tions would serve to materially diminish the density of the population in the City of Victoria. It would seem that very drastic measures of control would be necessary to interfere with that "innate tendency of the Chinese to herd together." This aspect of the question is one which a Commission appointed to inquire into the Housing Problems would need to take seriously into account. Mr. BOWLEY's admirable suggestions, so far as they go, will, we are sure, widely commend themselves as practical proposals likely to make for the better sanitation and health of the Colony; but the problem of overcrowding, it seems to us, needs to be tackled on other lines besides schemes for more widely distributing the population. Who are the people who herd together in a way which constitutes a serious menace to the public health? We think it may be said that they are mainly of the class which knows not from day to day, where the where-withal to live is coming from, and in any consideration of the problem of remedying the evil, we would suggest that institutions on the model of London's "Roxton House" should not be overlooked. If the Government itself is to embark on any scheme for providing accom-
modation for the population, it could not do better than put up an institution or two of this kind where the worst disease-breeding rookeries in the Colony now exist, and make the necessary arrangements of their proper management. It is, at least, an idea that should be considered.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

"The Stunts" give their entertain-
ment at the Theatre Royal to-night in
aid of the St. Andrew's Day effort.

The next organ recital of the
present series by Mr. Denman Fuller
will be given in St. John's Cathedral at
6 p.m. on Monday week, December 9th.

We have received too late for
insertion to-day a very lengthy letter
on "The Housing Problem" from a
"Ratepayer." It will appear to-
morrow.

Four cases of enteric (3 British and
1 Chinese) were reported in the Colony
during last week. The only other cases
of communicable disease were 1 of
diphtheria and 1 of cerebro-spinal fever.

The Auction of the valuable Lease-
hold Property Nos. 37 and 38 and known
as Smith's Villa, The Peak, takes place
at Messrs. Hughes and Hoogh's Auction
Rooms to-morrow, Thursday, at 3 p.m.

Sir Francis Aglen, Inspector-
General of the Chinese Maritime
Customs, paid official calls yesterday on
the Military and Civil Governors of
Canton.

The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock
Co. Ltd. acquired at auction yesterday
the leases of two lots of Crown Land
East of Hungshom, of a combined area of
154,490 square feet. The upset price
for the two lots was \$23,174, and the
lots were sold for that figure.

The Canton Custom House is to
have three days holiday, November 27,
28 and 29 in honour of the Allied
Victory and World Peace. The office
and store will open in the mornings on
November 27 and 28, and be closed in
the afternoon. On the 29th they will
be closed to business the whole day.

The Queen's College magazine notes
the following changes in the staff—
"Mr. Nightingale who has so ably
edited the Yellow Dragon during the
past year has been transferred to Yau-
mat, and our old friend, Mr. Crook, has
come back to us to take over the duties
of second master. We extend a hearty
welcome to him and to Mr. Maxwell
who has also returned to the fold,
albeit, only for the afternoon."

Miss Lena Greenberg, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Greenberg of Stang-
hay, was married this morning at the
Registrar General's Office, Hongkong, to
Mr. Irvinus Uytendae, son of Mrs. A.
Uytendae of Antwerp, Belgium. The
bridal party is an Assistant Examiner of
the Chinese Maritime Customs at Ning-
po. A Reception Party, held at the
Canton Hotel this evening, in the hon-
our of the bride and groom, was given
by the Chinese Consulate and the
Belgian Consulate.

THE SUMMARY COURT.

DISPUTED MONEY CLAIM.

Before His Lordship Mr. J. E.
Gompertz (Puisne Judge) this morning,
Wong Kam Ying, a "coal merchant,"
brought a suit against Ng Ting Obeung
for \$404.48, being amount of principal
and interest due for money lent to him.

Mr. Lewis (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes
and Master) appeared for the plaintiff,
while the defendant was represented by
Mr. G. Haywood.

The plaintiff and defendant were
partners in a theatrical enterprise, called
the Yuk Hing Company. One of the
resolutions passed at a meeting of the
Company was that the treasurer was
the only person empowered to borrow
money. The plaintiff in his evidence
admitted this and said that at the time
he lent the money there was no sugges-
tion that it was lent for the Company.

The Treasurer told him that the
money was for his own private use.
The plaintiff produced the documents
in support of his case.

Mr. Haywood: I suggest that no
money was lent on this document and
that it was merely made for the purpose
of this case—No, this is a proper
document.

A clerk of the plaintiff said that on
September 7th the defendant came to
his master's shop and asked for \$400
for his own private use. The plaintiff
then made out a cheque for \$500, had it
cashied and gave defendant \$400. De-
fendant signed a borrowing note,
written out by himself. On the 6th
another loan was made for \$400 to
Yung Fung Ki. It was also paid in
cash.

Shoi Lei Choi, a proprietor of Yat
Hing theatrical company, said he took
part in the management of the theatre.
He was superintending the collection of
tickets. At a meeting of the proprietors
on July 17th he proposed that all
monetary matters should be looked after
by the Treasurer of the Company. He
did not know whether defendant had
power to borrow money. Witness
received from defendant \$380 for the
purpose of paying the actors' passages
from Shanghai.

Mr. Haywood said the defence was
that \$400 was borrowed from the
plaintiff for the purpose of paying actors'
passage and that the other \$400 alleged
to have been lent on the 6th September
was never lent. He could satisfy His
Lordship that the receipt produced was
not genuine. If he could bring the
Treasurer who was now in Canton III,
and put him in the box and question
him whether he had received \$400 he
was bound to say "no."

The case was adjourned.

BILLIARDS.

PALACE HOTEL HANDICAP.

The first games in the above Handicap
took place last night. The first prize is
for a most serviceable Gold Wrist Watch
which is on view at the Hotel. The
second prize will be left to the winner
to choose, and also the break prize. In
the games last night Mr. Vas, owes 100,
easily defeated Mr. G. May, owes 40,
the latter player being completely off
form.

In the second game Mr. C. Bond
owes 130 met. Mr. J. Parkes owes 250
and the excellent play of the former
combined with the hard luck of the
latter enabled Mr. Bond to win very
easily. Mr. Parkes put up a beautiful
break of 42, and the balls being in a
good position, he seemed like making a
large break, but going to the table, he
accidentally touched the ball, thereby
making a foul. The chief breaks were
Mr. Bond 42 twice, 34. Mr. Parkes,
42, 31, 21.

The games to-night are J. P. Robinson
and W. Gerrard, at 6 p.m. and A. G. S.
Morton and A. Simpson, at 9 p.m.

Two further cases of Pipe Tobacco
have been generously presented by
Messrs. Meekamp & Co., Manila, to
the War Charities Committee in Hong-
kong for the relief of wounded soldiers
in England.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY.

WHEN you have a bad cold you
want a remedy that will not only
give relief, but effect a prompt and
permanent cure, a remedy that is pleasant
to take, and contains nothing
injurious. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy
meets all these requirements. It is a
natural, plain, reliable remedy, and
restores the system to healthy condi-
tion. It is a family medicine, and
should be in every household. It is
sold by all Chemists and Druggists.

THE SUMMARY COURT.
LARCENY OF SOVEREIGNS.
Before Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe this
morning a Chinese was charged with
the larceny of 220 sovereigns.

Mr. Leo d'Almeida appeared for
the defence, on behalf of Mr. E. J.
Grist. He pleaded guilty, on be-
half of defendant, to the extent of
£26. The owner of the safe, in
which the money was kept had left
the safe open, which, he remarked,
was a great temptation to the people
in the house. Unfortunately defen-
dant succumbed to the temptation
and took away £26. He asked his
Worship to deal leniently with defen-
dant, inflicting a fine if possible.
Defendant had admitted his guilt
and shown the place where he con-
cealed the money. This was the
first time he had been brought before
the Court.

Inspector Gerrard, who pro-
secuted, said the complainant, a
woman, had £220 in the safe. She
did not see the money for a week or
two before the robbery. When the
theft occurred, defendant was sus-
pected. He admitted his guilt and
took the Police to the place where
he had the money. His explanation
was that he found the safe open and
stole the £26. He maintained that
that was all the money he found in
the safe. It was rather strange
that defendant did not take also the
\$600 in notes which were also in the
safe. As all the evidence the Police
could obtain was that given by the
complainant, he was in a position to
accept the plea of guilty to the
extent of £26.

Sentence of six weeks' hard labour
was passed.

SNATCHING CASES.

Chinese youth was charged on
remand before Mr. Wolfe with
snatching one gold-mounted bangle
valued at \$2 and a jade-stone
worth 50 cents from the person of
a 18-year-old Chinese girl at Swatow
Lane.

Sergeant Blackman prosecuted.
At the previous hearing defendant
stated that he was falsely accused,
and that he would bring a playmate
of his who would tell the Court that
he was on that day looking for his
brother when he was arrested.

Defendant failed to produce his
witness, and a previous conviction
for snatching being proved against
defendant, he was sentenced to 12
months of the birch and to undergo
three weeks' hard labour.

Another Chinese lad was charged
with snatching a pair of earrings
worth \$5 from a 12-year old girl at
Queen's Road East.

Sergeant Blackman stated that
yesterday afternoon the girl was
going home from school along
Queen's Road East when defendant
came up and snatched the earrings
from her and made off, but was
arrested by a Chinese seaman. The
complainant's ears were bleeding
when she was brought to the station.
It was solely due to the seaman,
the sergeant said, that defendant
was arrested.

Defendant pleaded guilty and said
he threw the rings away when
chased. One of the earrings was
subsequently recovered.
Mr. Wolfe sentenced defendant to
two months' hard labour and to re-
ceive 12 strokes of the birch.
The seaman who made the arrest
was complimented by his Worship,
who ordered \$5 to be paid to him
out of the Poor Box, as he was un-
employed.

THE MAGISTRACY.

LARCENY OF SOVEREIGNS.

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morning a Chinese was charged with
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could obtain was that given by the
complainant, he was in a position to
accept the plea of guilty to the
extent of £26.

Sentence of six weeks' hard labour
was passed.

TRAVELLING BY AIR AT FIRST- CLASS FARES.

CATERING FOR PUBLIC FLIGHTS AFTER THE WAR.

Problems of commercial aviation were
studied at first-hand by a large party
of Colonial, British and Allied Journalists,
who recently inspected the Handley Page
Works. The inspection included a flight
over London in several of the new big
Handley Page bombing machines.

The recent London to Cairo flight and
other long distance journeys were in-
stantiated by Mr. Handley Page at a
luncheon as proof that commercial avi-
ation had actually arrived. There was,
he said, a great future for commercial
aviation, if it were properly organised
and run, and he quoted figures to prove
that passenger carrying at rates slightly
in excess of first-class railway fares would
produce a profit of about 60 per cent.
on capital. To produce this they would
always have to fly with a full load.

In binding still closer together
the Empire by establishing quicker com-
munication between its component parts
the aeroplane was destined to play a
great part. All they looked for to the
Government was the provision of im-
perial air stations. If the rest were left
to private enterprise, he was confident
the aerial mercantile would be built up
as firmly as the mercantile marine.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, who pre-
sided, recalled that it was just ten years
since Wilbur Wright and his
brother came and did their first flight in
Europe. There had been no other form
of development in human history which
had shown such remarkable results in
that time as flying.

Then the engines were of 24 h.p. To-
day they were as much as 750 h.p. and
the carrying capacity had increased from
about 9 stones to 14 tons. Ten thousand
feet was then the highest flight; to-day
we were doing 26,000. And while 40
miles an hour was then the highest speed,
to-day we were approaching 100 miles.
Our original Army in France started with
3 planes; the huge number to-day he
could not give. Long flights—to and
from America, for instance—would be
possible, and he hoped to fly to India.
They must, however, strive to produce a
silent engine, for the public would not fly
long distances in aeroplanes which had
noisy ones.

Journalism has a Royal recruit in the
"King of Siam," who recently contributed
an article to a Siamese journal on the
"Freedom of the Seas." It would be
interesting to know whether he used ordi-
nary Siamese or "Palace language,"
said a London correspondent. The lat-
ter came into existence in order that
the tender ears of Royalty should not be
offended by unpleasant or indecent ex-
pressions, while all Royal utterances had
to sound different from similar actions per-
formed by lesser people. This Royal
language is as complete as the national
tongue.

SIAMESE KING A JOURNALIST.

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formed by lesser people. This Royal
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tongue.

MARSHAL FOCH.

THE ALLIES' GREAT STRATEGIST.

Marshal Foch was born at Tarbes,
in the South of France, December 2, 1851,
and is therefore now 67 years of
age. The great military captain who has
schemed the world by his marvellous
strategy, is a square-shouldered, heavily
visaged, sturdily built man, rather below
middle height. His face is that of a
thinker, but he has the clear-cut, rus-
set hair of the man of action. Long be-
fore this war he had a high reputa-
tion among his contemporaries as a
writer on military subjects. Since
1914 he has shown as a commander
in the field that he is as brilliant in the
practice of war as he is brilliant in the
theory of it. His two great books, "Principles of War," "Conduct of War,"
have been translated into English,
German, Italian and other languages.
The illustrious Marshal's father was
a member of a distinguished French
family. His mother was a member of
the family of the Duke of Orleans, in
other words, the old Bourbon family, which
was the home of Marshal Foch's
ancestry and has a number of royal
connections.

INDIGESTION AND BILIOUS- NESS.

YOU should be careful of your
digestion. Indigestion and biliousness
are the most common ailments of the
modern age. They are the result of
overeating, of eating too fast, of
eating too much of the wrong kind of
food. They are the result of a weak
digestive system. They are the result
of a sluggish liver. They are the result
of a congested stomach. They are the
result of a disordered system. They
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OVERCROWDING IN HONGKONG.

A STRONG PLEA FOR ACTION.

INTERESTING SPEECH BY MR. F. B. L. BOWLEY.

At the usual fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board yesterday, Mr. F. B. L. Bowley moved the following resolutions:—

- (1) That in order to relieve the congestion of the overcrowded districts of the City of Victoria and Kowloon, which constitutes a serious danger to the public health, the Board recommends the Government:—
 - (a) To take steps by levelling undeveloped Crown Land at Kowloon and elsewhere and constructing and laying out suitable roads, and by all other means in its power, to expedite and encourage the provision of healthy and cheap houses for the working classes, to which the surplus population of the congested districts should be transferred.
 - (b) To undertake the systematic resumption and reconstruction of the most insanitary portions of the City.
- (2) That the Board, apprehending the possibility of a serious epidemic occurring in the Colony, requests the Government to restore the Sanitary Staff to its full complement as soon as possible by the temporary engagement of suitable persons from outside the Civil Service, in order to prevent the routine work of the Department falling into arrears.

Mr. Bowley delivered a lengthy speech on the subject in the course of which he said: Although the important questions of Housing and Overcrowding have been very freely discussed in the Colony recently, I think you will agree with me that it is desirable for this Board, which is charged with the duty of safeguarding the health of the Colony, to have an opportunity of expressing an opinion and making recommendations on these all-important subjects.

On the 6th August, in speaking to the estimates for next year, then before the Board, I drew attention to the subject of overcrowding, and made various suggestions towards its relief.

Since that date the whole aspect of the world has changed. We were then overshadowed by the blackest war-clouds, and the war monopolised our attention and exhausted our energies; we were now basking in the sunshine of an assured and victorious peace. The period of destruction has ceased, and a new era of reconstruction has dawned.

H.M. the King reminded the Imperial House of Parliament last week that all classes of his people now have an opportunity of inspiring and guiding the beneficent undertaking of reconstruction. Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Bonar Law include extensive reconstruction schemes in their joint programme, and although this Board would not presume to seek to guide our local Government, we can, and I think we should, endeavour to the best of our ability to inspire the Government with reasonable suggestions towards the improvement of housing of the population of the Colony.

That there is urgent need for some improvement in the Public Health is shown by the significant fact that, although the Colony has escaped any serious epidemic this year (except the cerebro-spinal fever, which, though alarming, did not affect the death-rate very materially), the average mortality for the first ten months of this year is about 30 per thousand per annum—a rate which has been well maintained during the current month.

On the 6th August I pointed out that the estimates for 1919 were evidently framed with the strictest economy with a view to another year of war, and I refrained for that reason from pressing for many improvements which this Colony sorely needs.

Now we can look forward with considerable confidence to a year of peace, and consequently, although it is most desirable that economy should be observed, we hope not to be any longer under the grinding necessity of scrutinising every cent spent on public improvements.

The Local Budget debate revealed that this Colony is the fortunate possessor of overflowing coffers, and that (after making very large remittances to the Imperial War Chest) a surplus of Revenue over Expenditure of no less than one and a quarter millions of dollars is anticipated at the end of this year, and a further surplus of more than two millions at the end of 1919.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I anticipate that the Colony, conscious of its patriotic duty to the Empire, which has borne so heroically the huge burden of the last four years, will be desirous to place this surplus to the disposal of the

Imperial Government, and I do not propose to suggest any expenditure which would encroach on such a laudable wish. But we hope that next year it will be unnecessary to dispose of our surplus revenue, and the question then arises, how such revenue can best be applied in the interests of the Colony.

The recently published report of Lieut. Olitsky has corroborated in the most striking manner the remarks I made on the 6th August with regard to the danger of overcrowding in the Colony. His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government in laying this report on the Council Table on October 17th drew forcible attention to passages in the report dealing with overcrowding, and, after pointing out the work involved and expenditure entailed in dealing with this question, he said:

"The task of correcting the errors of the past will, however, have to be faced, if the community is to be protected against epidemics of serious disease."

The problem of overcrowding is not a new problem for Hongkong; overcrowding has probably existed in a greater or less degree from the earliest days of the Colony—owing, partly, to the configuration of the land, and partly, to the innate tendency of the poorer classes of the Chinese to herd together, believing, no doubt, that there is safety in numbers. The natives also find warmth in numbers, and this natural desire for warmth tends to aggravate overcrowding in cold weather.

Enquiry after enquiry has been held, report after report published, and Ordinance after Ordinance passed, with the object of curing this disease of the body politic, but, in spite of all this, endeavours to the population continues to overtake the available accommodation, and the density of the "surface" crowding seems to be worse than ever.

CONDITIONS WORSE THAN EVER.

In 1902 Mr. Osbert Chadwick, the Sanitary Expert, had no hesitation in saying that the then conditions in Victoria were, as regards overcrowding, rather worse than better than they had been in 1882, and in 1918 I think that it may be safely said that in this respect the City of Victoria is in a worse condition than it ever was before.

There is nothing new in the facts to which Lieut. Olitsky draws attention vividly. All of us who have any acquaintance with the problem were aware of its danger, but the report has added at least one additional turn to life in proving conclusively that overcrowding, which encourages and aggravates the spread and intensity of so many of the well-known diseases, is a primary cause in the cultivation and spread of this unfamiliar disease known as cerebro-spinal fever; and since the report was published we have been told on very good authority that overcrowding is a most dangerous factor in the threatening epidemic of influenza.

Dr. T. Woo, of Edinburgh, in a very interesting and concise lecture on the Prevention of Tuberculosis recently delivered at the Chinese Y.M.C.A. (a lecture which I think that public-spirited body should print and distribute broadly), said that inhaling the germs, through the mouth is certainly the most common way of infection of tuberculosis, and it is well-known that tuberculosis is well-prevalent in the city, and that overcrowding is the best means of cultivating every variety of this disease.

Every school-boy and every school-girl in Hongkong knows, or should know, of the danger of overcrowding, as the text-book on Hygiene issued by the Government for the use of Hongkong schools explains this clearly. In that text-book it is laid down that every adult requires 1,000 cubic feet of fresh air every 20 minutes, and that the amount of cubic space required for each adult in a house is 1,000 cubic feet.

Yet the law allows houses containing cubicles, in which the air can never be called really fresh, to be occupied in the proportion of one adult to every 500 cubic feet, or, if there are no cubicles, every 330 cubic feet.

Such is the minimum requirement of the law, and although it is barely one-third of the quantity of air laid down as essential to health, we know that those which might legally accommodate from 7 to 9 persons are habitually occupied by from 18 to 20 persons.

Not only is each cubicle usually filled with bed-boards, but even the passages and gangways are blocked with bed-boards—each flat is a seething mass of humanity, inhaling the infection of each other's breath, and running every risk of contagion; the windows and doors closely shut to prevent robbery; and these miserable creatures have usually only one common smoke-begrimed kitchen, seven feet square, in which to perform their ablutions, cook their food, and obey the calls of nature. Is it wonderful that in such a congenial atmosphere many persons fall victims to any disease that may be in the air on the bodies of their neighbours? The germs of that disease may be in the air, but they are not in the air, they are in the bodies of their neighbours.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I anticipate that the Colony, conscious of its patriotic duty to the Empire, which has borne so heroically the huge burden of the last four years, will be desirous to place this surplus to the disposal of the

In addition to the internal overcrowding, we have in Hongkong the surface overcrowding of the very kind. In 1906 the Medical Officer of Health pointed out that the average density of the whole City of Victoria was more than double of Glasgow, the most densely crowded town in the United Kingdom, and there has been very little improvement in the poorest districts since that date.

Lieutenant Olitsky also refers to the fact that Canton is far less crowded, and, consequently, is more healthy than Hongkong. This fact has long been known to us, but it is none the less a standing disgrace to this outpost of Western civilisation.

THE PRESENT LAW.

It is true that in 1903 the Government introduced a new Public Health and Building Ordinance, drafted by Professor Simpson, and Mr. Osbert Chadwick, which effected an enormous improvement in the law on the subject. Again in 1908, as the result of another enquiry, further extensive amendments were made in the law with a view to improving the sanitary condition of the Colony, and, although the law as it stands, must be regarded more as a compromise between the conflicting interests of the landowner and the tenant than as an ideal Code of Sanitation, it is a long way in advance of pre-existing legislation, and would, if its provisions were more fully availed of, enable the Colony to wipe out the dark stains of the insanitary areas.

Under the present law there are three classes of houses:—(a) those existing on 21st February, 1903; (b) those erected before that date; and (c) those erected since that date on Crown Land leased after that date.

There is little to complain of in Class (a), as such houses must not exceed in height the width of the street on which they front, and must be provided with an open space equal to at least half the built-over area and a scavenging lane; such houses cannot produce excessive surface overcrowding.

Houses in Class (b) are not satisfactory, but they are an improvement on the older type; the height in Class (b) may be 1½ times the width of the street and the open space provided must be at least one-third of the built-over area, and a scavenging lane is generally required.

Houses in Class (a) are many of them villa residences of 3 or 4 storeys, fronting on narrow lanes, and provided with no open space except a narrow funnel of a back-yard, 7 feet square, into which little air and light can penetrate, and which has no direct communication with the street. This back-yard naturally becomes the receptacle of all kinds of refuse and filth, which are only removed about once a year when the sanitary cleansing gang rakes it on their rounds. Houses of this class have been condemned over and over again by sanitary experts, medical officers, and many others, and it is these houses which must be reconstructed if the Colony is ever to be healthy.

GOVERNMENT'S POWERS.

Now, the Government has drastic powers of resumption of these insanitary buildings, but has hitherto hesitated to use these powers—partly out of consideration for the owners, and partly on the ground of expense. I have no quarrel, gentlemen, with landlords as a class; as in all other walks of life, there are good landlords and bad landlords. That landlord who constructs or maintains healthy houses takes an interest in the welfare of his tenants, and is content with a fair remuneration on his capital is a benefactor of the human race, and it is necessary to our existence as the farmer who feeds us.

But I have no sympathy with the owner of insanitary buildings, still less when that owner is either an absentee or a corporation (with no soul to be damned), least of all when the insanitary houses are farmed out in blocks, and neither landlord, lessee, nor sub-lessee has any interest whatever in the property except to squeeze the last cent out of the long-suffering tenant and evade the vigilance of Building Overseer and Sanitary Inspector. During the last few years these landlords have reaped a rich harvest from their long-suffering tenants, out of which they can well afford to reconstruct their houses on healthy lines. Against this class let the Government proceed with the utmost rigour of the law, and the great mass of public opinion will support their action. The machinery exists, and there are experienced officers in charge, the only difficulty is the Treasury.

I do not hesitate to say that, if the Medical Officer of Health and the officer in charge of the Building Ordinance were allowed a freer hand to put the law in operation in this City, the insanitary areas would soon begin to melt away.

But however insanitary the property is, resumption requires money, and I think that stage has been reached when this Board should urge the Government to devote large sums yearly to this vital object. Money so spent is not lost the owner of the insanitary house, rearranged on modern lines, can be sold at good prices for the erection of healthy houses, and the general prosperity of the Colony is also promoted.

On the recommendation of this Board, to undertake the demolition of the upper storeys of every third house in an insanitary block, and to recover the cost of the work from the adjoining owners whose houses will be enhanced in value by the additional light and air rendered accessible. This principle might easily be extended to cover all resumptions by an amendment of the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance.

So far as I am aware, no considerable resumptions of insanitary property in the City have been undertaken in recent years, nor are any contemplated by the Government in the immediate future. The reason put forward for inaction in the past has usually been want of money, and the Government had pointed out the enormous sums which have been expended, and very necessarily and advantageously expended, first on the Railway, then on the Typhoon Shelter, and last but not least on Water-works.

These great works, having been successfully accomplished, the Government is now turning its attention to roads and communications and quarters for Government servants. Next year's programme of Public Works Extraordinary shows an expenditure of over 2½ millions on these and other important works.

But, as I have pointed out, there is still for the first time for many years, an available surplus of over two millions, and unless this Board claims with no uncertain voice a considerable share in that surplus for the resumption of insanitary property and the rehousing of the displaced working classes the spare dollars are likely to be diverted to some other purpose.

SUGGESTIONS.

By my resolutions I only ask the Board to assert the general principle, and in view of the possibility of a Commission being appointed to consider the whole question, I do not wish to tie the Board to any detailed scheme, but I should like to suggest that a sum of not less than half-a-million should be set aside for the purpose of resumption of insanitary property, 1918, and that such resumption be undertaken forthwith in a systematic manner, commencing with the worst districts, which the Medical Officer of Health and Building Authority can do without indicate without any difficulty.

I should further like to suggest that negotiations should be rapid, that a fair offer should be made in each case, and, if it is not accepted, the matter should be referred without delay to the Board of Arbitration provided by the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance, that, with no more impartial tribunal existing, consisting as it does of a Judge of the Supreme Court as chairman, and two members nominated by the Government and the landowner respectively.

With regard to rehousing the displaced population, I suggest that, in the first place, all suitable vacant flats should be rented by the Government, and the displaced individuals induced to remove to those flats, which should be sublet to them on easy terms. The Return produced in reply to my question at the last meeting shows that there are at present about 500 vacant floors in the City alone, which might accommodate some 4,000 people.

Mr. Bowley went on to offer a number of suggestions for the development of outlying districts with a view to remedying the overcrowding evil, and then said a few words on his second motion, with reference to the Sanitary Staff. The overcrowded state of the City, the abnormally high death-rate, the prevalence of tuberculosis, and the threatening epidemics of influenza and cerebro-spinal fever, small-pox and plague, were surely sufficient arguments for the immediate restoration of the staff to its full complement by engaging men locally pending the return of the inspectors on military service. We were 9 inspectors short and although the remainder no doubt did their best to cope with their most unpleasant and strenuous duties, it would be quite impossible for them to carry out efficiently the work of safeguarding the public health of our large population even in normal times, and if a serious epidemic occurred there must be a breakdown.

Even with a full staff the department was seriously undermanned. It was stated in 1901 that in Liverpool, with a population of then of 660,000, there were less than 57 Sanitary Inspectors, and there were also, no doubt, a large number of Factory and other inspectors in addition. In Hongkong, with a larger population, we have at present only 23 Sanitary Inspectors and no Factory Inspectors. Of these 23 Inspectors only 11 are District Inspectors, the remainder being fully occupied with special duties in connection with the food supply, scavenging, cemeteries, etc. Mr. Bowley did not think anyone would claim that the population of Hongkong was more sanitary in its habits than that of Liverpool, and the climatic conditions here were certainly more trying for the Inspectors. Then the rural districts were left to the already overworked Police, who were expected to add sanitation to their multifarious duties. The result was that in outlying districts sanitation was conspicuous by its absence.

MR. ALABASTER SECONDS THE MOTION.

Mr. ALABASTER seconded the resolution. In a short speech he said, if the demand which had been made for a Commission to inquire into and report on the housing problem was granted, it would not be necessary to press the first part of the Resolution now before the Board, but as far as the Government had maintained a discreet and strategic policy with regard to the demand for a Commission, he would not demand a duty from the members of the Board. He would, however, demand that the Government should not delay in appointing a Commission to inquire into and report on the housing problem, and that the Government should not delay in appointing a Commission to inquire into and report on the housing problem, and that the Government should not delay in appointing a Commission to inquire into and report on the housing problem.

plague, small-pox, meningitis and influenza engendered by that overcrowding, call for prompt and drastic action by the Government.

MR. HALLIFAX OPPOSES.

The Hon. Mr. Hallifax: Without in any way at all trying to create any sort of feeling against Mr. Bowley's motion, it seems to me that—as the matter has been very strongly represented to the Government, and very fully reported and commented on by Lieut. Olitsky; and, as Mr. Alabaster has said, the matter has been gone into, very properly, by a public meeting which has requested the Government to appoint a Commission; and as we know that the matter has the very earnest consideration of the Government—the resolution which now is before us is unnecessary, and I oppose it. Both resolutions on being put to the meeting were carried.

RUSSIA'S EXECUTIONER-IN-CHIEF.

PETERS' LIFE IN LONDON.

CHARGED WITH COMPLICITY IN THE HOUNSDITCH MURDERS.

Jacob Peters, who is responsible for sending hundreds of men and women to execution in Moscow a couple of months ago, is the man who was suspected of having been concerned in the Houndsditch murders in December 1910, and with the Sydney street affair in January 1911.

He was born in 1886 in Lithuania, and came to this country in 1904, when he secured employment as a presser with a firm of wholesale second-hand clothes dealers in North London, now carrying on business in Whitechapel.

On December 22, 1910, Peters was arrested on suspicion of having been concerned in the murder of three police officers by shooting them at Houndsditch on December 16, and, with others, he was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court in April 1911. The evidence against him was that he was seen, with a man named Luboff, assisting George Cardstein, one of the principals engaged in the murders, who had been accidentally shot by an accomplice. There was evidence that he had been in the company of some of the persons engaged in the murders before and after the commission of the crime.

The defence was an alibi, and it was suggested that Peters was mistaken for his cousin, Fred Swan, his double, who was undoubtedly engaged in the murders. Swan lost his life in resisting arrest at Sydney street on January 2, 1911.

A "FURIOUS ANIMAL."

At the trial the Judge said that there was an element of doubt in the evidence, and Peters was acquitted. Afterwards he returned to his old firm, with whom he remained until April 1917. On May 1 of the same year the London Russian Delegate Committee sent Peters to Russia.

Soon after Peters' arrival in Russia he became a Bolshevik. After the November Revolution, when the Leninists came to power, he occupied a post in the Foreign Office, but it was only lately that he achieved world notoriety as the President of the Committee for Combating Counter-Revolution and Sabotage.

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MAURITIUS DELAGOA BAY, DURBAN.

INDUS MARU Wednesday, 25th Dec.

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KOFUKU MARU Thursday, 28th Nov.

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SHISEN MARU Friday, 29th Nov., at Noon.

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KALU MARU Sunday, 1st Dec., at 10 a.m.

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SWATOW & BANGKOK	CHINCHU	CHINA	Nov. 29, at 9.30 a.m.
WEIHAIWEI & TIENTSIN	Yungchow	Yungchow	Nov. 29, at Noon.
SHANGHAI	SHANGHAI	SWATOW	Dec. 1, at Noon.
SHANGHAI	SHANGHAI	SWATOW	Dec. 3, at Noon.
SHANGHAI	SHANGHAI	SWATOW	Dec. 5, at Noon.

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HAIPHONG via HOIHOW	LOKSANG	THURSDAY	Nov. 28, at 8 a.m.
LOKSANG	LOKSANG	FRIDAY	Nov. 29, at 3 p.m.
MANILA	YAN WAIWU	FRIDAY	Nov. 29, at 3 p.m.
SINGAPORE & PENANG	YAN WAIWU	FRIDAY	Nov. 29, at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	YUNSHANG	THURSDAY	Dec. 5, Daylight.
SHANGHAI	YUNSHANG	FRIDAY	Dec. 6, at Noon.
SANDAKAN	YUNSHANG	FRIDAY	Dec. 6, at 3 p.m.

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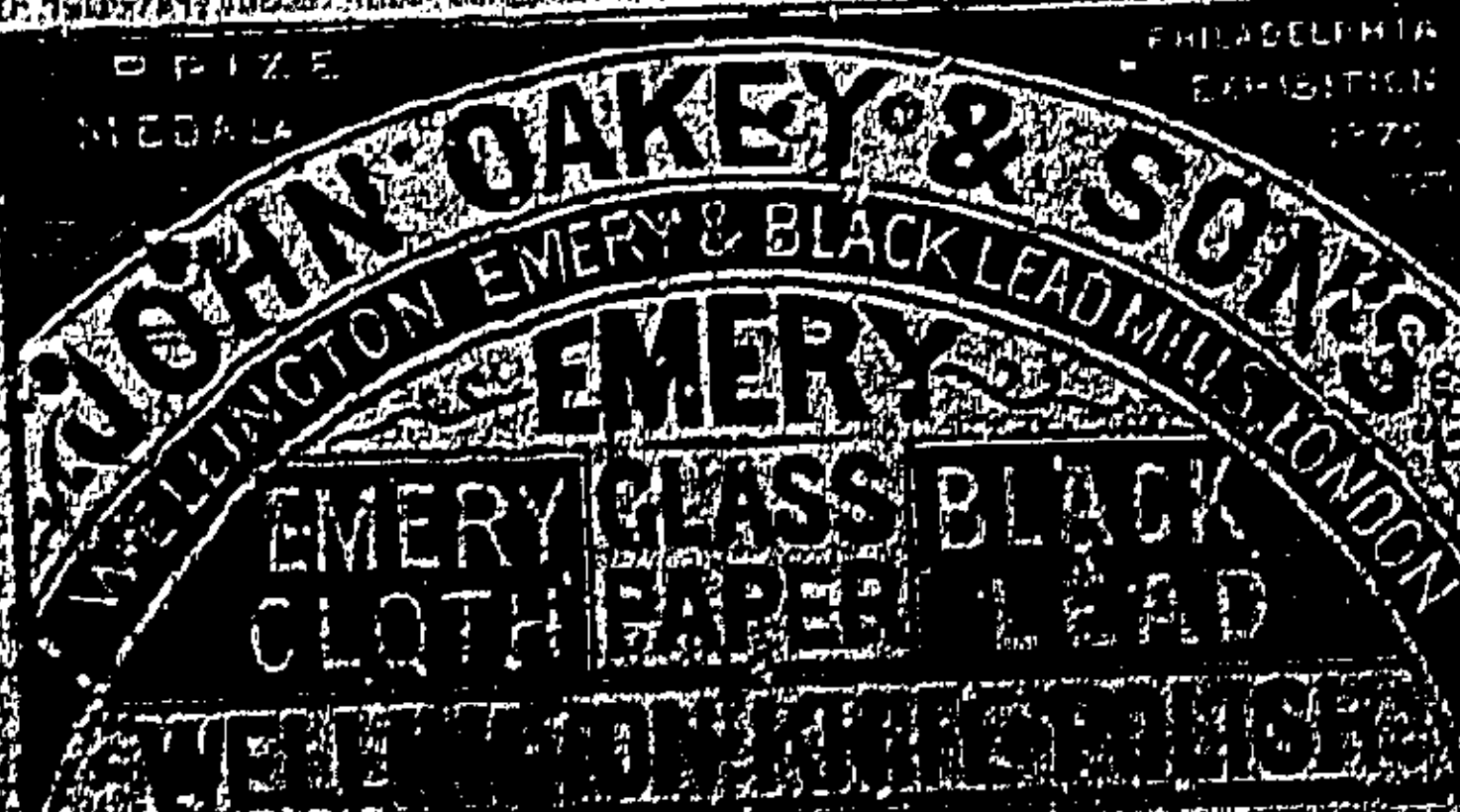
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Silk and Valuable Cargo for Italy,

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contents and value of all packages are

required.

For further particulars, sailing dates,

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E. V. D. PARR,

Superintendent.

Hongkong, Nov. 18, 1918.

3219

KONINKLIJKE PAKETVAART

MAATSCHAPPY

(Royal Packet Navigation Co. of

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Destination	STEAMER & DISPLACEMENT	SAILING DATE
Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama	*Tamba Maru, 12,510 tons SAT., 7th Dec., 11 a.m. *Kamakura Maru, 12,410 tons SUN., 8th Dec., 11 a.m.	
Nagasaki, Kobe & Yokohama	*Nikko Maru, 9,600 tons SAT., 14th Dec., 11 a.m. *Hitano Maru, 15,980 tons SAT., 18th Jan., 11 a.m.	
Shanghai, Moji & Kobe	*Tama Maru, 7,000 tons FRI., 29th Nov. *Bombay Maru, 9,950 tons SUN., 1st Dec.	
Liverpool via Spore, Penang, Colombo, Delagoa Bay & Cape Town	*Kaga Maru, 12,300 tons WEDNES., 18th Dec., at 11 a.m.	
Melbourne via Manila Zamboanga, Thursday Is., Townsville, Brisbane, & Sydney	*Tango Maru, 13,760 tons WEDNES., 18th Dec., at 11 a.m.	
New York via Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama, San Francisco & Panama Canal	*Kosoku Maru, 7,000 tons FRI., 29th Nov.	
Bombay via Singapore, Malacca, & Colombo	*Toyooka Maru, 15,210 tons SATUR., 7th Dec. *Yokohama Maru, 9,900 tons TUES., 10th Dec.	
Calcutta via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon		

*Omitting Shanghai, and/or Moji. *Wireless Telegraphy.

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VIA

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Operated by the magnificent and splendidly equipped Passenger Steamers "Fushimi Maru," "Suwa Maru," "Kashima Maru" and "Katori Maru," each of over 20,000 tons displacement.

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*Kashima Maru, SATURDAY, 21st Dec., at 11 a.m.
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SOME CURIOUS TAXES.

STRANGE PLANS FOR RAISING
REVENUE.

The net of taxation is now so widely spread that for new and profitable sources of revenue can be suggested even by the most expert volunteer. In the old days he had a far greater chance. Many excellent suggestions were then laid before the Chancellors of the Exchequer and were adopted by them. Others were rejected as so fantastic that they were brushed aside with scant ceremony. There is one of the latter, however, that has come into its own since the war began. The entertainments tax of the present day was anticipated over 150 years ago by the inventive genius who proposed that all places of public diversion, including playhouses, operas, masquerades, banquets, vauxhalls, salons, Wells, and Astley's—the famous resorts of the fair and the fashionable of his day—should be taxed. Another proposal was that the very statues in the gardens and the lakes and the groves, the grottoes and the temples of those days were thick-set with statues of heathen gods and goddesses—should have a pig put upon their heads. In addition to the suggestions of the volunteer financiers the Chancellor of the Exchequer has many finger-posts put up in past times to guide him on his fiscal path. Time was when taxes were put on the watches attached to the walls that dangled from the fobs of the beaux or "hung on the girdles that encircled the waists of the ladies. These who owned clocks were also regarded as fit subjects for special taxation. The "penny-a-piece" tax—the tax a householder had to pay for every person in his household who wore a pig-tail and covered his hair with powder—had its day and passed away. So too, had a tax on soap—the impost that gave Lord North his nickname of "Old Soap-suds," and a tax on salt. Gloves and mittens were once taxed, and so also were scores of other articles and the shops in which they were sold. A duty was at one time levied on bricks, but by some curious process suffered a change into a tax on publicans.

INVENTIONS, FANTASIES AND UNPOPULAR.

Undoubtedly the most comprehensive scheme of taxation ever devised was that which drew within the net all husbands and everybody in whose house a birth, a death, or a marriage took place. On the burial of a duke the State drew £50 4s. on that of a distaffman 4s. The burial of a duke's first son cost the father £50 2s.; in the case of a person of the lowest degree the pounds disappeared and only shillings were paid. To marry cost a duke 1s. 6d. less than to be buried. The scale for the postage in regard to births, and marriages descended by so many pounds with each descent in rank. An archbishop paid at the same rate as a duke; a bishop was regarded as the equal of a baron. If he remained single a duke had to forfeit £12 11s. The eldest son of a duke paid £5 6s. in similar circumstances. An esquire who declined to hang the matrimonial noose round his neck paid £1 6s., but a simple gentleman was charged only 6s. The rate for those of meaner estate was a shilling. Even a tax on tombstones was once proposed as a tax that could meet with no objection. Sheridan, the actor member, replied that the only reason why the proposed tax could not be objected to was because those out of whose property it would be paid would know nothing of the matter, as they must be dead before the demand could be made; but then, after all, he added, who knows that it might not be rendered unpopular by being represented as a tax upon persons who, having paid the debt of nature, must prove that they had done so by having the receipt engraved upon their tombstones?

The match tax, the tax that loved, copying the example of the United States, proposed in 1871, the tax that was so unpopular that it had to be abandoned, we have to "bear now. But there are other taxes of older days which we are little likely to see again imposed, however great the pressure for revenue may be. Among them is the window tax and the hearth tax. The latter is an ancient duty known as the fumage or tax of smoke-furtings, is mentioned in Domesday Book, and was in force long before the Conquest. It was regarded in later days with bitter hatred, and the visits of the "chimney-men," as the assessors and collectors were termed, were looked upon as an invasion of the sacred home of the Englishman. William the Third repealed it the year

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN.

It may be impossible to prevent accidents, but it is possible to prevent the loss of property in the event of an accident. The N.Y.K. Line has a special insurance policy for its passengers, which covers all property carried on board. For further information apply to the N.Y.K. Line.

the Act abolishing it, declaring that the step had been taken "in order to erect a lasting monument" of this Majesty's goodness in every heart in the Kingdom. Eight years later, unfortunately, the monument on the hearth was observed by the shadow of the tax-gatherer at the window on the same errand. When the tax was in force people sought to evade it in every possible way, and even demolished their chimneys in order to obtain a reduction of the charge. The window tax was quite as unpopular, and was even more open to evasion. Windows were completely locked when the time for the assessor's visit came round, and were opened again as soon as he had made his assessment. This procedure was met by a provision by which a penalty of 20s. was imposed for every window reopened without notice to the surveyor. Disputes, frequently arising as to what was and what was not a window. "Window," according to the dictionary upon which the judges relied, was defined from "wind door," and signified any aperture in a building by which light and air are admitted. A hole made for additional ventilation was held to be a "window" within the meaning of the Act, and so, too, was a hole through which coals were shot into a cellar. One appellant was assessed in respect of a cellar granting with iron bars to it, although so little light was "intromitted" that it was necessary to use a candle in order to see. In yet another case a man who, under the advice of a distinguished sanitary reformer, had placed in the wall of his house four perforated zinc plates with the object of ventilating his pantry was held to have opened four additional windows. The tax was repealed in 1851.

If the day looks kind & gloomy
And your chances kind & slim;
If the situation's puzzling
And the prospect's awful grim;
And the perplexities keep crossing
Till all the hope is nearly gone;
Just hustle up and grin your teeth,
And keep on keepin' on."

"The inner side of every cloud
Is bright and shining;
I therefore turn my clouds about
And always wear them inside out.
To show the lining."

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Special care is given to the children and the attendance on

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10 a.m. Office to Office Collection
11 a.m. Motor Car Procession
11 a.m. to 1 Music on Cricket Ground
Noon. Auction of Gifts
3 p.m. Opening of St. Andrew's Fair

Every Cent Raised to be sent to Scottish Hospitals, where
Wounded Soldiers and Sailors are Treated
Irrespective of Nationality.

Every cent is needed for
the great work of healing.

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Every cent is needed for
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WE ARE PROUD OF THE BOYS WHO WON THE WAR! DO YOUR BIT, AND THEY WILL BE PROUD OF YOU!

WEATHER REPORT.

November 27th 11h. 30m.—No returns from Japan and Vladivostok. An anticyclone again covers N. China, and pressure has increased considerably over that region; it has increased slightly elsewhere. Fresh breeze from N.E. along the China coast, and over the N. China Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 1.01 inch. Total since January 1st, 101.30 inches, against an average of 81.83 inches.

Forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon on the 28th November:—
1.—Hongkong to Gap Rock: N.E. winds, fresh; fair.
2.—Formosa Channel: N. winds, fresh to strong.

3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Loochans: The same as No. 1.

4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan: The same as No. 1.

ROYAL OBSERVATORY HONGKONG, DAILY WEATHER REPORT.

NOVEMBER 27, 1918.—a.m.

Station.	Hour.	Barometer at Sea Level.	Temperature.	Humidity.	Wind Direction.	Force.	Weather.
Widenedock.	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Memuro	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hakodate	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tokio	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kochi	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagasaki	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kagoshima.	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oshima	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Naha	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ishijima	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bonin Island	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wakaido	6 a.	30.31	49	75	W	9	b
Hankow	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ichang	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kiukiang	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Changsha	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shanghai	6 a.	30.24	43	100	W	1	b
Amoy	6 a.	30.20	44	94	W	1	b
Swatow	6 a.	30.07	38	84	W	2	b
Sharp Pk.	6 a.	30.06	33	83	W	1	b
Amoy	6 a.	30.06	33	83	W	1	b
Swatow	6 a.	30.06	33	84	N	1	c
Taihekou	6 a.	30.04	33	98	N	0	b
Tientsin	6 a.	30.05	33	—	—	0	b
Tsichu	6 a.	30.07	33	—	—	1	b
Kochu	6 a.	30.03	33	—	—	4	b
Pescadores.	6 a.	30.00	26	—	—	—	—
Canton	6 a.	30.08	33	83	W	2	b
Hankow	6 a.	30.04	33	83	W	1	b
Gap Rock	6 a.	30.03	33	—	W	4	b
Macao	6 a.	30.02	33	—	W	1	b
Winchow	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pakhoi	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Holow	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phuilen	7 a.	30.08	38	98	W	2	b
Tourane	7 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. S. F. Amoy	7 a.	30.07	37	—	W	6	b
Aperri	7 a.	30.80	72	94	W	6	b
Desapunta	7 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manila	7 a.	30.89	73	98	W	6	b
Legaspi	7 a.	30.77	73	96	W	0	b
Tsloban	7 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sariga	7 a.	30.66	75	92	W	4	b
Sariga	7 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guam	4.20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laban	8 a.	30.78	80	91	W	3	b